

COMPREHENSION CHALLENGES



If you have ever lived where the winters are cold and snowy, you've probably watched flocks of birds as they begin their migration south. They leave their northern summer homes to go to gentle climates for the long winter months. Only a few species are able to withstand northern winters. Because of this, they instinctively seem to know that when freezing weather comes they must leave or be greatly endangered.

Many people like to watch birds. Some feed them. Many people around Coventry Lake, Connecticut, have enjoyed watching birds in winter. They supplied feeding stations and kept them well stocked. Because of the cache, the ducks that inhabited the lake during the spring, summer, and fall sometimes did not migrate south. Sudden freezing temperatures are part of the weather pattern in this area. As

the birds rested on the lake, ice would entrap their feet. Then the ducks would frantically and futilely flap their wings trying to get away. In no time they become prey to the wild animals foraging in the nearby woods surrounding the lake.

Because of this, officials have appealed to the town's people to recognize nature's design and stop feeding the birds.

1. The main idea in this selection is:
 - (a) feeding birds
 - (b) interfering with nature
 - (c) freezing temperatures
 - (d) the kind people in Connecticut
2. Who filled the feeding stations?
 - (a) birds
 - (b) town's people
 - (c) forest rangers
 - (d) no one
3. Near the lake is found:
 - (a) a city
 - (b) a wooded area
 - (c) a weather station
 - (d) a smaller lake
4. The birds were entrapped in the lake when they:
 - (a) ate
 - (b) rested
 - (c) slept
 - (d) lit
5. After the birds were entrapped they:
 - (a) flew away
 - (b) flapped their wings to get away
 - (c) gave a bird call warning
 - (d) relaxed and saved their energy
6. In this story cache means:
 - (a) store that sells for cash
 - (b) hiding place
 - (c) hiding place for food
 - (d) supplies
7. The birds did not migrate from Coventry Lake because:
 - (a) it is warm in Connecticut
 - (b) they liked their home
 - (c) food was supplied
 - (d) the hunters were not allowed
8. If the ducks are entrapped, they will:
 - (a) be eaten
 - (b) freeze
 - (c) be shot
 - (d) fly away